



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

JANET OLSZEWSKI
DIRECTOR

November 8, 2004



Mr. Jason El-Zein
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V - Emergency Response Branch
9311 Groh Road
Grosse Ile, MI 48138

Dear Jason:

Pursuant to the recently completed health consultation for the former W.R. Grace vermiculite exfoliation facility in Dearborn, Wayne County, Michigan, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) would like to request the assistance of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In order to implement the recommendations and "public health action plan" listed in the health consultation for the site, the following actions were suggested:

- Verify that areas of contaminated vermiculite remaining inside the former Grace facility building, have been appropriately cleaned up. Verify remediation results with post-cleanup indoor air sampling or other appropriate techniques.
- Characterize the extent and magnitude of remaining vermiculite contamination in on-site soil, possibly including soil beneath the parking lot. Based on the results of the characterization, develop a plan to eliminate or reduce future exposure.
- Characterize the degree and magnitude of remaining contamination in off-site soil in the neighborhood immediately surrounding the former Grace facility.

The following items were listed as "planned actions" within the health consultation:

- EPA, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), MDCH, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will coordinate efforts for any additional environmental sampling, possibly to include neighboring off-site areas. This information will be used (as applicable) to update any indeterminate public health hazards associated with the former Grace facility. (Suggested lead agency: EPA; support agencies: ATSDR, MDCH, MDEQ)
- EPA, ATSDR, MDCH, and MDEQ will consider the use of air dispersion modeling to characterize past off-site fiber migration. This information could be used (as applicable) to update any indeterminate public health hazards associated with the former Grace facility, in addition to focusing future off-site environmental sampling. (Suggested lead agencies: MDCH, MDEQ; support agencies: ATSDR, EPA)

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We look forward to discussing your potential assistance at the former W.R. Grace facility in Dearborn and look forward to working with you at this site. You should have received a printed copy of the final health consultation by now; please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further background or other information that you may require.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik R. Janus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Erik" and last name "Janus" clearly distinguishable.

Erik R. Janus, M.S.
Michigan Department of Community Health

cc: Linda Dykema, David Wade, Mark Johnson, Erik Janus